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COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION
Thirty-first session
13 May-7 June 1991
Agenda item 7

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITS THIRTY-FIRST SESSION

Draft report

Addendum

Rapporteur: Mr. Boris GOUDIMA (Ukrainian SSR)

III. PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993

Section 28. Human rights

1. At its 22nd, 23rd and 25th meetings on 28 and 29 May, the Committee considered section 28 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

Discussion

2. A number of delegations noted the recent increase in the workload mandated by the General Assembly and supported the programme of work of the Centre for Human Rights. Some delegations voiced approval of the 10.9 per cent rate of real growth proposed for section 28, while others pointed out that the need for additional staff should be met through redeployment from other areas of the Secretariat. Several delegations voiced disapproval at the significant rate of real growth proposed under this section, particularly since it was not included in the broad priority areas identified in General Assembly resolution 45/253. Other delegations did not share that view.

3. A number of delegations questioned the proposed redeployment of a D-1 post from Executive Direction and Management to the Advisory Services, Technical Assistance and Information Branch and the proposal to establish a new D-2 level post for a Director and Deputy to the Head of the Centre for Human Rights. Several delegations requested information concerning the changes and development in the Centre for Human Rights staffing table since 1974. In addition, some delegations felt that the Centre should have a better geographical distribution in its overall staffing table.

4. The lack of supporting information on workload statistics was noted by several delegations.

5. One delegation queried the activities of the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus. The same delegation also queried the method of financing treaty bodies.

6. Some delegations noted with regret the absence of substantive activities related to racism and racial discrimination and apartheid.

Reservations

7. One delegation expressed its reservations on the following activities:

(a) The Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories;

(b) The Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

Conclusion and recommendation

8. The Committee recommended approval by the General Assembly of the programme narrative of section 28 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.